Comments

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on February 26, 2003. At the time the Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 1 through 55 were pending. By way of the present response, no claims have been canceled or amended. New claim 56 has been added. As such, claims 1 through 56 are currently pending. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of claim 1 through 56.

Enclosed herein are replacement figures to each of Figures 7, 8, and 9.

With respect to Figure 7, the following elements have been deleted: 1) "ASIC Patent proposal"; 2) "Alfa Romeo"; 3) "Mats Frannhagen"; 4) mfrannhagen@turinnetworks.com"; 5) "Figure 4. The "round robin" top level Verilog model for N=20"; 6) "6/26/01"; 7) "Company Confidential"; 8) "Turin Networks, Inc.".

With respect to Figure 8, the following elements have been deleted: 1) "ASIC Patent proposal"; 2) "Alfa Romeo"; 3) "Mats Frannhagen"; 4) mfrannhagen@turinnetworks.com"; 5) "Figure 5. The basic "brute force" verilog implementation of the "prio" module for N=20. This generates the smallest area but is slower than the alternative implementation shown next."; 6) "6/26/01"; 7) "Company Confidential"; 8) "Turin Networks, Inc.".

With respect to Figure 9, the following elements have been deleted: 1) "ASIC Patent proposal"; 2) "Alfa Romeo"; 3) "Mats Frannhagen"; 4) mfrannhagen@turinnetworks.com"; 5) "Figure 6. Alternative "prio" module Verilog implementation"; 6) "6/26/01"; 7) "Company Confidential"; 8) "Turin Networks, Inc.".

The Examiner has rejected each of independent claims 1, 14, 19, 21, 22, 34, 47 and 52 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,467,009 (hereinafter, "Winegarden"). More specifically, the Examiner has pointed to the following portions of Winegarden as teaching the elements of the Applicant's independent claims: 1) Col. 5, lines 8-22; 2) Col. 6, lines 20-67; 3) Col. 7, lines 1-11 and 46-47; 4) Col. 17, lines 48-67; 5) Col. 18, lines 1-9; 6) Col. 8, lines 16-48; 7) Col. 14, lines 2-4 and 10-42; 8) Col. 15, lines 18-37.

"To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim" MPEP 2131. The Applicant respectfully submits that Winegarden fails to teach every element of the Applicant's claims 19, 34 and 52.

With respect to independent claims 19, 34 and 52, the Applicant respectfully points out that independent claim 19 recites: "[the] chosen grant generation unit is chosen because its corresponding request agent is the next request agent in [a] round robin grant eligibility hierarchy to be recognized as being eligible for a grant"; independent claim 34 recites: "[the] chosen grant generation unit being chosen because its corresponding request agent is the next request agent in [a] round robin grant eligibility hierarchy to be recognized as being eligible for a grant"; and, independent claim 52 recites: "[the] chosen

· grant generation unit being chosen because its corresponding request agent is the next request agent in [a] round robin grant eligibility hierarchy to be recognized as being eligible for a grant".

It is apparent to the Applicant that none of the portions of Winegarden cited by the Examiner disclose anything that could be fairly construed as choosing a grant generation unit because its corresponding request agent is the next request agent in a round robin grant eligibility hierarchy to be recognized as being eligible for a grant. The Examiner is referred to paragraphs 0033 through 0038 of the present application for material that refers to a grant generation unit for each request agent.

Moreover, with respect to independent claims 1, 14 and 47, the Applicant respectfully points out that independent claim 1 recites: "extracting a first active request value"; independent claim 14 recites: "extract a first active bit"; and, independent claim 47 recites: "extract a first active bit". Again, it is apparent to the Applicant that none of the portions of Winegarden cited by the Examiner disclose anything that could be fairly construed as extracting a value or bit. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that Winegarden fails to anticipate independent claims 1, 14, 47. The Examiner is referred to paragraphs 0049 through 0056 of the present application for material that refers to extraction of a value or bit.
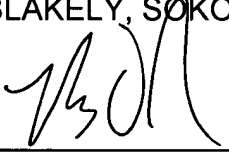
Applicants therefore respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would

- expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Robert O'Rourke at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date:___5/12/02___

Robert B. O'Rourke
Reg. No. 46,972

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300